

UNITED STATES DARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

PM82/0312

MARVIN B EICKENROHT BROWNING BUSHMAN 5718 WESTHEIMER SUITE 1800 HOUSTON TX 77057

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | TOTAL CLAMS EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT | | DATE MAILED | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|-------------|----------|
| 09/379,148 | 08/21/99 | 022 NGU | YEN, L | 3617 | 03/12/01 |
| First Named NAEDLER, Applicant | | 35 USC 1 | 54(b) term ext. | = 0 Days | ; . |

TITLE OF VEHICLE TIRE INFLATION SYSTEM INVENTION

| ATTY'S DOCKET NO. | CLASS-SUBCLASS | BATCH NO. | APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | FEE DUE | DATE DUE |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 1 NAED001 | 152-417.0 | 000 D3 | O UTILIT | Y YES | \$620.00 | 06/12/01 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. <u>PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.</u>

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN <u>THREE MONTHS</u> FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. <u>THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.</u>

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

- I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:
 - A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
 - B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.
- If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:
- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.
- II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

 Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

Notice of Allowability

Application No. , 09/379,148

Applicant(ŝ)

Naed!er

Examiner

Long Nguyen

Group Art Unit 3617



| herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. |
|--|
| ★ This communication is responsive to <u>amendment filed on January 23, 2001</u> |
| ∑ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-15, and 17-24 |
| ☐ The drawings filed on are acceptable. |
| ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d). |
| ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been |
| received. |
| received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) |
| received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). |
| *Certified copies not received: |
| Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e). |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the previsions of 37-CFR-1:138(a). |
| ■ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED. |
| |
| because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal. |
| \boxtimes including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. <u>6</u> . |
| including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on, which has been approved by the examiner. |
| including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment. |
| Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal lettter addressed to the Official Draftsperson. |
| ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL. |
| Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included. |
| Attachment(s) |
| |
| ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). |
| □ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 |
| ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152 |
| ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material |
| ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| M Examinor a statement of reasons for Allowance |

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art references do not disclose or teach a tire inflation system comprising a first rotary union member on the end of an axle having with a first seal ring, a second rotary union member mounted on the hub cap and in general alignment with the first opening and second seal ring, a flexible tube extending into first opening and second opening, each of the elongate openings closely receiving a substantial length of an end of the tube so that flexing of the tube compensates for misalignment while minimizing risk of distortion of the seal rings which might enable the to leak as set forth in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Long B. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-5201 and fax number is (703) 308-3297.

lbn

March 12, 2001

S. JOSEPH MORANO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600